

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and all prior versions, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) An arrangement for the ascent and/or descent of one or a plurality of persons on an object of great height such as a high-voltage pole, a tall building, a cableway mast, a silo, a building wall, or a shaft wall, the arrangement comprising:

one longitudinally extended rail-like profile to be firmly fixed at the object to be ascended/descended, the rail-like profile having at least one guide component extending along the profile and a force-transmitting component for the accommodation of force transmission onto the profile and/or guide component, the at least one guide component and/or the force-transmitting component being formed by at least one rack-like or grid-like longitudinal guide, and

a climbing aid having at least two independently operable climbing consoles arranged at the one rail-like profile, each climbing console having at least one platform or seat and a handle, as well as at least one force-transmitting element engaging in or on the force-transmitting component and/or profile and/or a drive, as well as a device holding the element or drive in or on the at least one guide component and/or profile, and

wherein each of the climbing consoles is longitudinally extended with ~~the~~ handle arranged at the top end in the direction of ascent and ~~the~~

platform arranged at the downward end, and wherein a personal safety device is provided on the climbing aid.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one force-transmitting element is a rotating pinion.

5. (cancelled)

6. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one force-transmitting element is blockable at least in the downward direction and remains free to rotate or slide in the direction of ascent.

7. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one force-transmitting element is damped and/or operatively connected to another suitable motion-damping or motion-inhibiting means, such as an eddy-current brake, centrifugal brake, or linear brake system, that is, that free mobility of the respective climbing console is not possible in the downward direction or the direction downward.

8. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 7, further comprising means for releasing brakes arranged in the region of each of the handles of the at least two climbing consoles for the actuation of the downward unblocking of the at least one force-transmitting element or drive, in order to make possible a damped downward motion of the respective climbing consoles.

9. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 1, wherein the personal safety device is a retaining apparatus, in the form of a safety belt or harness, arranged on at least one of the at least two climbing consoles for securing the person using the climbing aid.

10. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 1, wherein the longitudinally extended rail-like profile is fastenable to the object.

11. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 1, wherein said at least one force-transmitting element is both blockable with brakes and also rotationally or linearly damped.

12. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 1, wherein along the longitudinally extended profile and at least approximately transversely to the longitudinal extension of the profile there are arranged retaining bars provided for the suspension of auxiliary ladders.

13. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 1, wherein in each of the at least two climbing consoles the at least one force-transmitting element is provided with a drive selected from the group consisting of an electric motor, an internal combustion engine, and a linear motor.

14. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 1, wherein in each of the at least two climbing consoles the at least one force-transmitting element is connected to a drive motor, via gears such that the drive motor drives at least the dead weight of the respective climbing console of the arrangement upward upon activation.

15. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 14, wherein the drive motor is actuatable operatively connected to the platform, the seat, and/or the handle so that the drive motor can be activated or deactivated by unloading the platform or seat or by actuation of the handle or by electronic control.

16. (previously presented) The arrangement according to Claim 14, wherein the drive motor is additionally equipped as a generator in order to recover current during downward movement of the arrangement in order to feed for example a battery or rechargeable battery pack or a so-called Supercap (SCAP).

17. (currently amended) A method for the ascent and/or descent of a person on an object of great height such as a high-voltage pole, a tall building, a cableway mast, a silo, a building wall, or a shaft wall, using an arrangement comprising one longitudinally extended rail-like profile to be firmly fixed at the object to be ascended/descended, the rail-like profile having at least one guide component extending along the profile and a force-transmitting component for the accommodation of force transmission onto the profile and/or guide component, the at least one guide component and/or the force-transmitting component being formed by at least one rack-like or grid-like longitudinal guide, and a climbing aid having at least two independently operable climbing consoles arranged at the one rail-like profile, each climbing console having at least one platform or seat as well as a handle, and at least one force-transmitting element engaging in or on the force-transmitting component and/or profile and/or a drive, as well as a device holding the element or drive in or on the at least one guide component and/or profile, wherein each of the climbing consoles is longitudinally extended with ~~a~~ the handle arranged at the top end in the direction of ascent and ~~a~~ the platform arranged at the downward end, and wherein a personal safety device is provided on the climbing aid, wherein in said method the person ascends and/or descends along the longitudinally extended rail-like profile on the object using the climbing aid in such fashion that the at least one force-transmitting element of the respective climbing consoles engages in or on the rail-like profile and/or a drive, the person unblocking the at least one force-transmitting element or drive while descending, and descent taking place in damped fashion by connecting the at least one force-transmitting element or

the drive to one of a rotary dashpot, an eddy current brake, centrifugal brake, and a linear motor .

18. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 17, wherein the climbing aid is fashioned in two parts and the person using the climbing aid first ascends using one console of said at least two consoles by rendering the at least one force-transmitting element or the drive free in the climbing direction while blocking the at least one force-transmitting element on another console of said at least two consoles in order to prevent downward sliding of the another console; and that, after negotiating a certain climbing height, the person ascends with the another console by blocking the at least one force-transmitting element or the drive on the one console.

19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) A method for the ascent and/or descent of a person on an object of great height such as a high-voltage pole, a tall building, a cableway mast, a silo, a building wall, or a shaft wall, using an arrangement comprising one longitudinally extended rail-like profile to be firmly fixed at the object to be ascended/descended, the rail-like profile having at least one guide component extending along the profile and a force-transmitting component for the accommodation of force transmission onto the profile and/or guide component, the at least one guide component and/or the force-transmitting component being formed by at least one rack-like or grid-like longitudinal guide, and by a climbing aid having at least two independently

operable climbing consoles arranged at the one rail-like profile, each climbing console having at least one platform or seat as well as a handle, and at least one force-transmitting element engaging in or on the force-transmitting component and/or profile and/or a drive, as well as a device holding the element or drive in or on the at least one guide component and/or profile, wherein each of the climbing consoles is longitudinally extended with ~~a-the~~ handle arranged at the top end in the direction of ascent and ~~a-the~~ platform arranged at the downward end, and wherein a personal safety device is provided on the climbing aid, wherein in said method the person ascends and/or descends along the longitudinally extended rail-like profile on the object using the climbing aid in such fashion that by actuating a drive motor on one of the at least two climbing consoles of the climbing aid the drive motor drives at least the dead weight of the respective climbing console negotiating upward, actuation taking place either automatically by unloading of the respective platform or seat or, by actuation of a corresponding control on the respective handle, and that after the negotiation of a certain climbing height, the drive motor is deactivated and the drive motor on another climbing console of the at least two climbing consoles is activated automatically, in order to drive the another climbing console correspondingly upward.

21. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 20, wherein the drive motors of the at least two climbing consoles are activated or deactivated automatically in that on unloading of the platform or seat, the respective drive motor is activated while the other drive motor remains

deactivated automatically by loading of the platform or seat or under electronic control.

22. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 20, wherein in the descent of a person using the arrangement the drive motors of the at least two climbing consoles are operated in the manner of generators for generating current and feeding the current to a rechargeable battery pack for operating the drive motors .

23. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 20, wherein the object is one of a high-voltage pole, cableway mast, silo, building wall, and shaft wall .

24. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 20, including using the arrangement as a rescue device or as a fire ladder, said object being a tall building .

25. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 20, including using the arrangement as a self-contained person lift.

26. (cancelled)

27. (cancelled)

28. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the object is an outer façade of one of a high-rise building, a high-voltage pole, a cableway mast, a silo, and a shaft wall.

29. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, comprising using the arrangement for the guidance of a rescue device on a tall building.